

A Genus of Malachiidae New to the United States

W. WITTMER
HERRLIBERG-ZÜRICH

Through the courtesy of R. Constantin, Paris, I received a small lot of *Malachiidae* which Mr. Mahoux collected in the United States in 1964. The material contained a genus new to the fauna of the United States. The genus in question is *Ebaeus* Er., the major distribution of which lies in the Mediterranean and Central Asia. I was able to report a first species of *Ebaeus* from Mexico in 1966 (Ent. Arb. Mus. Frey 17:31 fig. 5) which is allied to the species described here.

This genus fits as follows into the table of Arnett, 1963, "The Beetles of the United States" and readers should replace 49(47) by:

49(47)	Apex of elytra simple or slightly impressed.....	50
	Apex of elytra appendiculate.....	EBAEUS
50(49)	Antennae flabellate.....	ATTALUS subgenus ACLETUS
	Antennae not flabellate.....	ATTALUS

Ebaeus viridescens Wittmer, NEW SPECIES

Male head, scutellum, and abdomen black, antennae brownish, 1st joint and 2nd to 4th more or less testaceous underneath, prothorax and legs uniformly orange, elytra dark green metallic with a faint blueish gloss, a small patch at the apex, and posterior appendage yellow-orange, anterior appendages darkened towards the tip.

Head with the eyes somewhat smaller than the prothorax, frons between the eyes almost flat, smooth, sparsely and finely pubescent. Antennae not extending much over the shoulders, joints 3 to 8 broadened inwardly towards the tip, joint 3 having a pointed tip, 4 to 8 a rounded tip, 9 less broadened towards the tip, 10 almost parallel, 11 oblong; joint 2 somewhat shorter than 3, 3 to 10 of about equal length inter se, 11 about as long as 2 and 3 combined. Prothorax broader than long, sides strongly rounded, basal angles more strongly rounded than the anterior angles, disc slightly convex, surface almost smooth, partly almost imperceptibly microsculptured (x64). Elytra slightly broadened towards the apex, without distinct puncturing, almost dull, suture slightly thickened and raised near the apex, sides with a bump near the appendage, posterior appendage almost oval (fig. 1), narrowed towards the tip, which is covered by the tip of the narrow anterior appendage; surface of the posterior appendage almost flat, only on each side of the base and almost in the middle with a very small raised field. Last tergite almost as long as broad at the base, sides narrowed towards the apex, apex almost completely rounded with the sides.

Female of the same coloring as the male, except the elytra which are completely greenish-blue and without the yellowish patch. Apex of elytra simple, without an appendage, last tergite (fig. 2) broader than long, sides strongly narrowed towards apex, apex with an almost triangular incision.

Length: 2-2.2 mm.

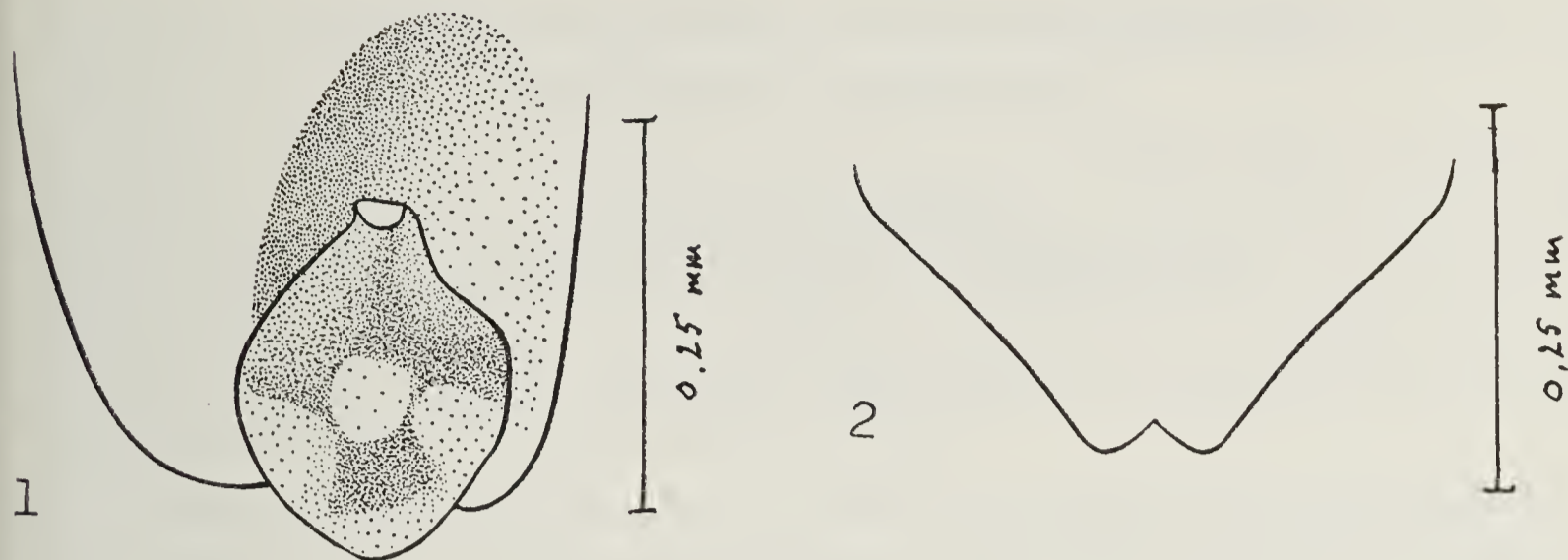


FIGURE 1. Apex of left elytra of *Ebaeus viridescens* n. sp. male

FIGURE 2. Last tergite of *Ebaeus viridescens* n. sp. male

Locality: Boulder, Colorado, 21 June and 11 July, 1964 on *Pinus ponderosa*. Holo-, Allo- and 1 Paratype in my collection.

It should be noted that both species recorded so far from North America have blueish-green or greenish-blue elytra, a color which is found rarely in this genus. The new species differs from *E. mexicanus* Wittm. by the elytra which are less elongate towards the apex, the testaceous appendage of a different shape, and the different coloring of the elytra.

FIELD NOTES

NOTES ON ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY OF EUXESTUS PUNCTATUS LEC. (COLEOPTERA: COLYDIIDAE) A single specimen of *Euxestus punctatus* was taken while sifting at Wheatley Provincial Park near Wheatley, Ontario, Canada, on 2 Sept. 1966. Sifting was done in a variety of forest situations and there was no clue as to the beetles ecology. Dr. W. J. Brown of the Canadian National Collection kindly confirmed the identification. He also stated that the species was previously unrecorded from Canada. (personal communication).

Blatchley 1910 records *Euxestus punctatus* as common in the southern $\frac{2}{3}$ of Indiana and notes that it is gregarious in winter and early spring beneath bark, especially of elm and willow.¹

On 7 July 1967, four specimens of *E. punctatus* were found at Wheatley Park, in the galleries of carpenter ants (*Camponotus herculeanus pennsylvanicus* DeG.) inside an oaken log. On 22 July 1967, two more specimens were taken near Tilbury, Ont., again in galleries of the same ant under bark of a dead elm. On 26 July 1967, 3 additional specimens were uncovered at Wheatley Park in a carpenter ant nest in an old beech log. In each case the beetles were found crawling about the gallery walls undisturbed by the excited ants. Apparently it is a tolerated guest. The oval, strongly convex body shape of *E. punctatus* does not permit this beetle to move freely under bark or enter small galleries of xylophagous insects as most other members of the family do. Thus the specious galleries of carpenter ants seems to be an excellent niche for this unique Colydiid, which is locally common and well established in eastern Essex County, Ontario.—K. STEPHENS, Tucson, Ariz.

¹The editor has taken this species in northern Indiana and as far north as St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.